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Mr. Manservisi visits CA

Devco Director General visits regional secretariat for Central Asia

Tashkent, Uzbekistan 13 July 2017

In the framework of his visit to Uzbekistan (13 - 14 July), Mr. Manservisi, Director General of DEVCO, visited the CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Central Asia on 14 July.

Mr. Manservisi was accompanied by the Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassa-

dor Stiprais as well as, Ms. Iodice, Head of Unit for Central Asia, Middle East and South Asia, Ms. Berenice Muraille, Head of Sector for Central Asia and Mongolia and Mr. Mic, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation.

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HIGHLIGHTS



Pakistan, Azerbaijan & Ethiopia join in 2017.



Head of Secretariats meeting in Brussels.



Visit to the Zaatari refugee camp.

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Countries who joined in 2016 / 2017

Since its beginning in 2009 the CBRN Centre of Excellence (CoE) has strived to help countries in need of CBRN support. The process of joining has been facilitated through careful planning and strategizing by EEAS, DEVCO, heads of state, secretariats and emergency services to create a platform that facilitates the needs of CBRN mitigation policy. **Pakistan** joined the CBRN Centre of Excellence initiative by becoming the

5th country of the Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, joining Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. **Azerbaijan** became the 10th South East and Eastern Europe country to join the CoE. **Ethiopia** kicked off 2017 by becoming the 11th Country to join from the Eastern and Central Africa region. **Sierra Leone** became the 10th country to form part of the African Atlantic Façade Regional Secretariat based in

Rabat, Morocco. **Mali** is the 7th country to form part of the North Africa and Sahel Regional Secretariat based in Algiers, Algeria and finally **Kuwait** closed out the year of 2017 by becoming the 4th country to join from the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries in late December. The CBRN Centre of Excellence looks forward to facilitating future commitments to this very important and relevant cause. □



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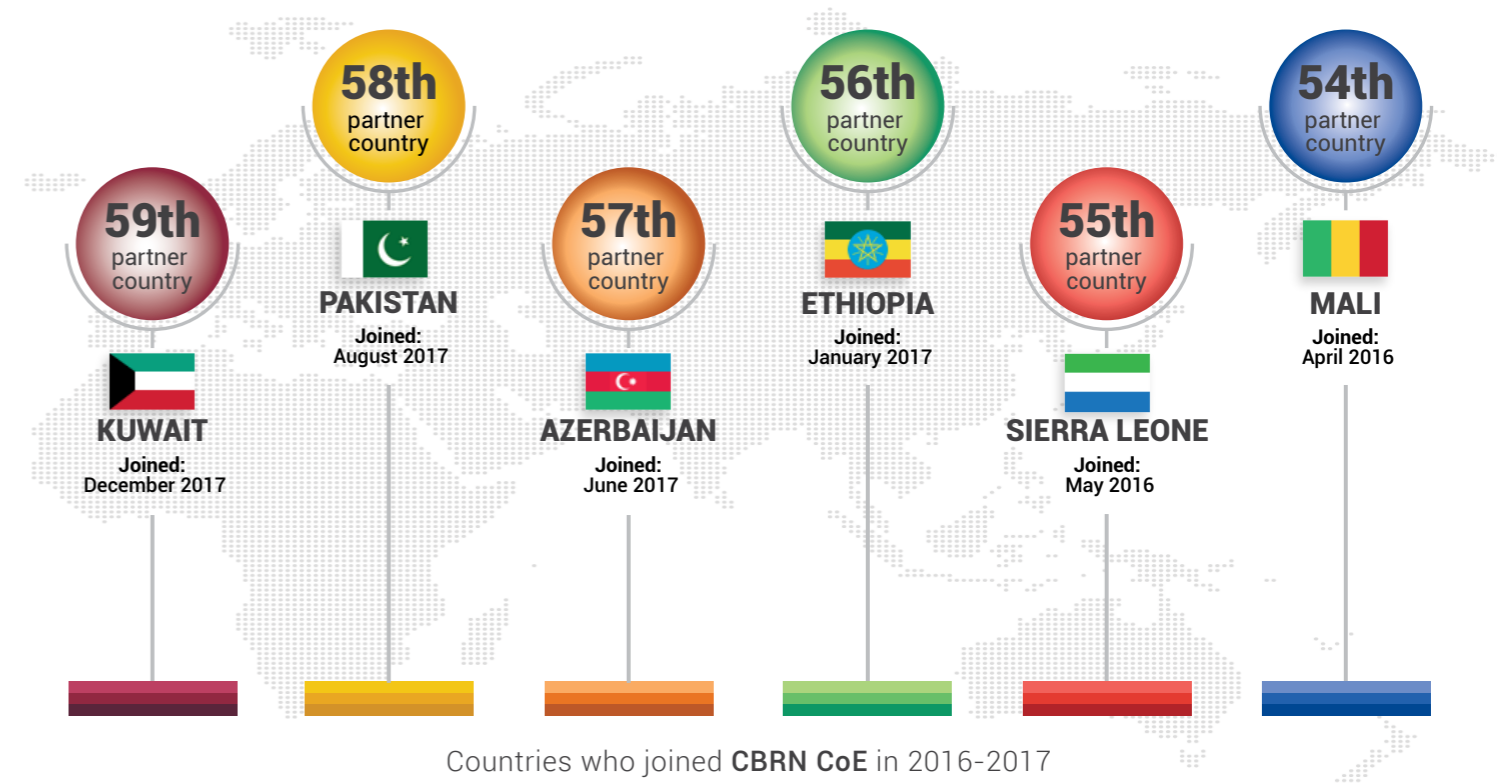
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Interview with the Kenyan Head of Delegation

By Jean Pierre Bardoul

The success enjoyed by the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative during the past years has brought about a progressive extension of the programme, both in geographical as well as thematic terms.

The role played by the EU Delegations in promoting the Initiative and working as its "eyes and ears in the field" has grown accordingly. A case in point is Kenya, a country that hosts the CoE Central and Eastern Africa Regional Secretariat (consisting of eleven partner countries) and is a key player in the Initiative. In this interview, Mr Stefano Dejak, the EU Ambassador - Head of Delegation in Kenya, gives an overview of the achievements and challenges of the Initiative.

How do you assess the relevance of the EU CBRN CoE Initiative?

The EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative is a flagship EU programme, which was established in 2010 in consideration of the EU internal – external security nexus: the recognition that the security of the Union does not stop at its external borders and that it is necessary to prevent and mitigate CBRN incidents worldwide, wherever they may occur. Today, a total of 58 Partner Countries in eight regions worldwide, including in Central & Eastern Africa, have accepted the CBRN assistance which the EU is offering. Concretely, the EU is acting in collaboration with the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), United Nations Interegional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and other agencies in order

to build partner countries' capacities and capabilities to prevent and mitigate CBRN risks, assist with drafting CBRN legislation, provide training for first-responder agencies, organise field exercises and other activities.

What is the state of play of the EU CBRN Initiative in Central & Eastern Africa?

The number of CBRN partner countries has steadily grown in the Central & Eastern Africa region, since the first CBRN stakeholder workshop was held in Nairobi in January 2012. Most recently, Ethiopia formally joined the Initiative, bringing the total number of partner

countries in the region to eleven. In terms of technical assistance, the region is benefitting from an increasing number of projects, including the ongoing project 42 on strengthening chemical safety and security in Central & Eastern Africa as well as project 60 on nuclear security. Equipment for first-responder agencies has been delivered, in combination with training in its usage. The procurement process for a new project on countering falsified medicines is expected to be launched before the end of this calendar year. Furthermore, at the Regional Round-table meeting held in Nairobi in February this year, partner countries tabled two new project ideas relating



Mr Stefano Dejak, the EU Ambassador - Head of Delegation in Kenya.

to chemical waste management and the strengthening of biosafety and biosecurity. As far as support to the implementation and coordination of the CBRN Initiative in the region is concerned, I would like to mention that Nairobi serves as the operational hub. International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) has placed a regional coordinator for the IcSP (Instrument contributing to Security and Peace) & the CBRN CoE Initiative

however, that following the national elections in Kenya in August this year, the opening could take place in late 2017 or sometime during 2018. Furthermore, in all CBRN partner countries the strengthening of the position of the national focal points (NFPs) remains an issue that calls for regular attention and follow-up. The NFPs need political support to continue to do their important work, highlighting the CBRN dossier within their respective governments.

“The number of CBRN partner countries has steadily grown in the Central & Eastern Africa region”

within the Kenya Delegation and also the UNICRI regional coordinator works from Nairobi. Moreover, since more than one year two CBRN On-Site Assistance (OSA) experts are working full-time in Nairobi, while covering the Central & Eastern Africa region. All this is proof of the political commitment of DEVCO to the region in terms of the CBRN programme.

What about the political significance of the EU CBRN CoE Initiative for Kenya?

The EU – Kenya Political Dialogue was restored in early 2016, after a hiatus of several years. The security sector is part and parcel of the agenda of the EU – Kenya Political Dialogue, which as recent as 30 May this year witnessed a meeting of all EU Heads of Mission with President Kenyatta. The EU CBRN Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative features under the item of security.

What are the CBRN-related challenges that the region faces?

While the implementation of CBRN projects and activities has been proceeding well, the formal inauguration of the CBRN Regional Secretariat for Central & Eastern Africa still remains on the agenda. The Delegation is hopeful,

What are the next steps for the CBRN CoE Initiative in Central & Eastern Africa?

In terms of project activities, the team for the implementation of project 60 on nuclear security in Central & Eastern Africa is expected to deploy to Nairobi in September this year. The implementation team will be recruited following the evaluation of offers under the ongoing procurement procedure launched by the International Science & Technology Centre (ISTC), who is the main implementer under the PAGODA delegation agreement. Furthermore, meetings have been planned in individual partner countries, in order to complete the process of undertaking CBRN needs assessment exercises (NAQ) and drafting of CBRN action plans (NAP).

Finally, the NFPs of the Central & Eastern Africa region will convene in Abidjan later in the year to witness a CBRN side event which will be organised in the margins of the EU – Africa summit to take place in Côte d'Ivoire in late November. The EU – Africa summit will present a great opportunity for visibility for the EU CBRN CoE Initiative, as the objective is to include a reference to the Initiative in the political conclusions of the summit. □



Profile

Stefano-Antonio Dejak



Originally from Udine (Italy) Mr Dejak earned degrees in History and Political Science after which he joined the Italian Diplomatic Service.

European Union to the Republic of Kenya:

2015

Ambassador to Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi:

2011

Ambassador to the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Embassy of Italy, Nairobi:

2007

Counsellor at the Special Diplomatic Delegation for Somalia, Nairobi:

2005

Greater Horn of Africa Dept, Sub-Saharan Division, Rome:

2004

Secretary for the UK Embassy in London:

1998

Secretary for the Nigerian Embassy:

1994





EU CoE Success Stories

By Fanny Fert, Saidou Ouedraogo and Nasir Ahmad

Uzbekistan:

The opening of the EU CBRN CoE Secretariat for Central Asia in Uzbekistan created a focal point in the region. Further to this, the Uzbekistan Government passed a Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers that allowed the official nomination of the HoS, the NFP and the National CBRN working group. The dialogue between relevant ministries and agencies on CBRN issues was enhanced. It allowed the development of a CBRN strategy and the successful implementation of projects and also enhanced regional cooperation and dialogue. This close cooperation between partner countries and the EU, UNICRI and JRC is one of the key elements in achieving the success story.



Gur-Emir Mausoleum in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

Afghanistan:

The consequences of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies challenge all national response capabilities in Afghanistan. Responsibility for an effective first response to mitigate the consequences to lives, infrastructure and the environment remains essential in the country. Enhancing preparedness through a multi-agency and multi-national sectors approach is critical and a CBRN approach to engage all the relevant ministries, departments and agencies is the best option.

Coordination and communication among Afghanistan National Public Health institute, Afghanistan Atomic Energy High Commission, Ministry of agriculture, Irrigation & livestock, Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Environmental Protection Authority, The Kabul Municipality, Afghanistan National Disaster Management Agency and other sectors about CBRN has been started and established for the first time.

CBRN initiative has given a unique opportunity to Afghan Biosafety and Biosecurity professionals to gain a clear understanding of future requirements and capabilities needed for a multi-agency approach to a CBRN emergency and strengthen coordination among multi sectors to be responsible for relevant component of CBRN Risk mitigation initiative.

• National Action Plan (NAP) first draft has been prepared and Afghan key professionals attended the first Workshop in Tajikistan

• Close communication and coordination between different relevant authorities in Afghanistan helped to implement CBRN components and adopt them into Afghanistan context.

Burkina Faso:

L'enjeu de la problématique des armes aussi bien classiques que de destruction massive est mondial. C'est pourquoi, la communauté internationale ne cesse de conclure de nombreux instruments aussi bien politiques que juridiques dans le domaine soit pour interdire la fabrication ou le trafic, prévenir ou lutter contre la prolifération, réglementer le commerce international, ou diminuer les stocks.

Le Burkina Faso qui s'inscrit dans cette dynamique internationale, a régulièrement signé, ratifié ou adhéré à plusieurs traités, conventions et initiatives et œuvre pour respecter ses obligations.

Aussi l'occasion est-elle indiquée pour exprimer notre profonde gratitude à l'Union européenne qui est très active dans le domaine du désarmement et accompagne déjà le Burkina Faso dans la mise en oeuvre de plusieurs instruments. Déjà en fin 2013, une délégation du Secrétariat de la Région Afrique du Nord et du Sahel conduite par le Coordinateur régional, a effectué une visite de travail au Burkina Faso pour présenter l'Initiative aux autorités. Après une analyse approfondie des textes régissant cette Initiative, le Burkina Faso y a formellement adhéré le 27 mai 2015.

“ Le Burkina Faso contribue de façon significative aux efforts de paix, de stabilité et de sécurité internationale ”

Le Burkina Faso a sollicité auprès du secrétariat régional la tenue d'un atelier de sensibilisation au profit des membres de l'Equipe nationale, nouvellement désignés au sein des institutions et ministères impliqués dans la problématique NRBC.

Le Burkina Faso s'est engagé dans le désarmement général et complet à travers plusieurs ratifications d'instruments internationaux, régionaux et sous régionaux. Cet engagement s'est fait au nom des principes de solidarité internationale et de la préservation d'un espace sécuritaire propice au développement et à l'épanouissement des populations et pour répondre aux sollicitations permanentes de la communauté internationale. Après son adhésion à l'Initiative des Centres d'Excellence de l'Union européenne, le 27 mai 2015, le Burkina Faso a procédé à la désignation du Point focal national dans la même année. Agent au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, le PFN assure la coordination efficace des personnels membres de l'Equipe nationale NRBC désignés au sein des institutions et ministères impliqués dans les problématiques relatives aux NRBC. Cette EN qui n'est pour l'instant mise en place officiellement par un acte formel, est opérationnel et se réunit en fonction de la nécessité. D'un effectif de dix-huit membres, l'EN est élargie d'une part à des représentants issus de structures en charge des questions de gestion et de contrôle des frontières (Secrétariat permanent de l'Autorité nationale de sécurisation des frontières, Direction générale des Douanes et Direction générale de la protection civile, etc.) et d'autre part à des experts locaux relevant de struc-

tures spécialisées dans la gestion des substances NRBC.

La mise en place de l'EN a permis d'améliorer la coopération, la coordination et les échanges entre les services parties prenantes. En effet, cette équipe d'experts est arrivée à créer une synergie d'actions en se réunissant à des fréquences déterminées ou de manière extraordinaire les cas échéants. Toute cette entreprise concourt à l'œuvre d'organisation sur le plan interne pour faire face à la problématique NRBC. La mise en place de l'EN NRBC a aussi à amener à prendre conscience du danger que représentent les matières NRBC dans le monde et plus spécifiquement au Burkina Faso. Elle a permis également à la mise en place d'un réseau de personnes averties à qui on pourrait faire appel en cas d'attaques ou d'incidents avec des matières NRBC.

En résumé, on retiendra que seules la bonne coordination, la mise en place d'une synergie d'actions et la volonté réelle manifestée de faire face à une problématique donnée sont les clefs de succès qui permettront de (déverrouiller) les entreprises qui paraissent, de prime abord difficiles voire, insurmontables. La bonne coordination est un facteur clé de réussite de toute activité envisagée par une organisation, voire un pays.

Le Burkina Faso a fait trésor des leçons apprises lors des rencontres diverses auxquelles il a eu l'opportunité de prendre part et œuvre conséquemment et résolument à tirer avantage de ces expériences partagées afin de parvenir à amoindrir/atténuer les risques liés aux NRBC. □



HEAD OF SECRETARIATS MEETING IN BRUSSELS

Olivier Luyckx, Head of Unit of DEVCO B5, underlined the maturity of the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative and stated that it had become a flagship programme within DEVCO. Looking to the future, DEVCO B5 plans to sensitise the Regional Directorates on the CoE Initiative, in order to assess the availability of geographical funding for security projects in the regions.

Points raised:

- More political support and visibility for the Initiative.
- Speed up the completion of the needs assessment (NAQ) and national action plan (NAP) processes and include the concept of risk within the methodology.
- Broaden the scope and type of activities, thereby abandoning a rigid definition of CBRN.
- Speed up the formulation of projects and improve use of local expertise.
- More resources needed, one or two CBRN projects per region per year is insufficient to meet the security needs of each country and region.
- Enhanced EU-NATO cooperation on CBRN issues through training at the NATO CBRN Centre in Vyškov.
- The Regional Secretariats are adopting a new role of transforming themselves into regional hubs for excellence, knowledge and expertise in the area of CBRN risk mitigation.





12th African Atlantic Façade National Focal Points Round Table Meeting, Brussels

AFRICAN ATLANTIC FAÇADE

By Stefania Micucci and Mohamed Salami

Séminaire Inter-régional des Centres d'Excellence NRBC de l'Union européenne

Paris, 2-5 Octobre 2017

À la demande de DG DEVCO, l'Équipe de gouvernance des Centres d'excellence NRBC de l'Union européenne a organisé un séminaire inter-régional, réunissant à Paris les Points focaux nationaux de 11 pays francophones partenaires de l'Initiative provenant des bureaux régionaux de Rabat (Façade Atlantique Africaine) et Alger (Afrique du Nord et Sahel).

Les objectifs principaux consistaient à échanger sur l'extension du champ de

l'Initiative CdE en réponse à la transformation des menaces dans la région concernée; encourager les dynamiques de coopération inter-régionale pour la prévention et la gestion des crises NRBC; apporter une vision d'ensemble du système français de gestion des questions de sécurité liées aux risques NRBC, pour nourrir la réflexion des PFN; souligner la dimension de la coopération inter-agences dans la conception des politiques publiques et du plan d'action national, et dans leur mise en œuvre aux niveaux national, régional et départemental; permettre aux NFP de rencontrer leurs homologues français dans les différents départements concernés

(ministère de l'Intérieur, ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Sécurité Civile, Douanes etc.); et échanger sur la situation de chaque pays et identifier les missions et formations nécessaires, en réponse aux besoins spécifiques de ces pays.

Au cours de la visite, les Points focaux nationaux ont participé à plusieurs activités et rencontres. La session finale a permis aux PFNs d'identifier les actions concrètes à conduire, à leur retour dans leurs pays respectifs, pour approfondir la dynamique de l'Initiative européenne des Centres d'Excellence (EU CoE).

Pilot African Regional Conference on Comparative review of biological threats needs assessments and national action plans implemented under WHO (IHR-JEE), EU CBRN CoE, 1540 UNSCR and BWC

Rabat, 25-26 October 2017

The mitigation of biological risks in Africa, in the wake of the West Africa Ebola crisis (2014-2016), has been the focus of the two-day African Regional Conference, co-chaired by the 2017 Italian Presidency of the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Centres of Excellence (EU CBRN CoE) Initiative in collaboration with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

The Regional Conference was attended by over 60 participants coming from eleven countries from the African continent - Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo - and members of the Global Partnership - European Union, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Canada and United States of America - as well as experts from international organizations engaged in biosecurity - World Health Organization, INTERPOL and the Implementation Support Unit of the Biological Weapons Convention.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr. Redouane Houssaini, Director for the United Nations and International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco highlighted the need to establish participatory frameworks at regional level with a view to strengthening capacities for CBRN risk mitigation with common approaches. Along these lines, he underlined the importance of the Rabat-based CBRN Risk Mitigation CoE Regional Secretariat, which rep-

resents a platform for the exchange of best practices among the countries of West Africa.

Ms. Barbara Bregato, Italian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, stated that, after the Ebola outbreak, it is crucial to invest in prevention and to ensure a proper follow-up to the CBRN national action plans designed for risk mitigation. African countries need to have in place the required capabilities, should another epidemic occur again. In this respect, Global Partnership members aim at proceeding as coordinated as possible. The Conference has been convened precisely in order to establish a common framework of priorities and discuss together new capacity building initiatives.

Mr. Alessio Cappellani, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Kingdom of Morocco, underlined that CBRN incidents of a natural, accidental or intentional origin present one of the biggest threats for collective health. The destabilising consequences of the Ebola crisis with respect to socio-economic stability of affected countries, as well as protection of populations, dramatically demonstrated this level of threat.

The Conference undertook a comparative review of biological needs assessments and national action plans, which have been prepared in the context of the

EU CBRN CoE Initiative, the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) under the WHO International Health Regulations, the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) and the Biological Weapons Convention.

Participants agreed on a set of coherent and comprehensive priorities to strengthen countries' preparedness against possible future epidemic outbreaks, which will be presented at the next Global Partnership meeting, to be held in Rome on 15-17 November 2017. The set of priorities will contribute to the creation of positive synergies between the policy orientations of Global Partnership members and the needs of African countries.

Rencontre de l'équipe nationale NRBC du Bénin

Cotonou, Benin, 9 May 2017

Le 9 Mai 2017, une rencontre a été organisée par l'équipe nationale NRBC du Bénin, avec le soutien du Bureau Régional de la Façade Atlantique Africaine. La rencontre a été ouverte par M. Marc Hermanne Haraba, Secrétaire Général du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères et de la Coopération, ancien PFN NRBC pour le Bénin, M. Alessandro Tedesco de la Délégation de l'Union européenne, M. Hervé Djokpe, Point Focal National NRBC du Bénin et M. Stefania Micucci Coordinatrice régionale pour la Façade



Rencontre de l'équipe nationale NRBC du Bénin

Atlantique Africaine. La rencontre, animé par la coordinatrice régionale et l'expert NRBC du Bureau régional, a été une occasion pour discuter avec les participants de la consolidation de l'équipe nationale NRBC, notamment de sa formalisation et de son ancrage ainsi que pour présenter le NAQ à travers un exercice sur table.

Rencontre d'experts de la Façade Atlantique Africaine pour le développement de projets régionaux
Lomé, Togo, 27-28 Mars 2017

Les 27 et 28 Mars 2017, le Bureau Régional de la Façade Atlantique Africaine a organisé, avec le Ministère de l'Environnement du Togo, une rencontre d'experts provenant des pays partenaires.

Les experts se sont rencontrés, à Lomé, pour discuter du développement de deux nouveaux projets régionaux. Les experts avaient préalablement été mandatés par le Bureau Régional pour mener une analyse de la situation nationale sur deux sujets considérés comme prioritaires par les Points Focaux Nationaux. La rencontre, animée par un expert du Centre Commun de Recherche de l'Union européenne et l'expert OSA du Bureau régional, a été une occasion pour partager les expériences nationales et dégager les besoins régionaux

en vue de la rédaction de deux nouveaux projets visant à adresser deux priorités régionales préalablement identifiées par les Points Focaux Nationaux.

P43 meeting with the General Secretariat of the Government of Morocco on dual-use goods' trade controls
Rabat, Morocco, 7 February 2017

The implementing consortium of the European Union Partner-to-Partner Programme on Dual-Use Goods Trade Control - Project 45 was invited by the National Commission on Dual-Use Goods of Morocco to meet and exchange with the General Secretariat of the Government on the dual-use trade controls, in Rabat, on 7 February 2017.

The objective of the meeting was to present and discuss the principles of controls of the international trade of dual-use items and technologies, requested notably by the mandatory resolution of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), their origin, their characteristics and their implementation worldwide. The meeting took place at a time when the General Secretariat of the Government was conducting a first assessment of the draft law elaborated by the ministries acting and represented at the National Commission, which is

the first step toward the enactment of the foundations for a national dual-use goods' trade control system.

The European principles and international best practices of control and their implementation were extensively commented and fed the discussions on a future state-of-the-art Moroccan national system.

Project 41

The project 41 on the management of high risk chemical facilities and risk mitigation in the African Atlantic Façade organized a two weeks training from for a regional experts team composed of 31 representatives coming from 7 French-speaking partner countries of the project.

The objective is to create a regional team able to convey the message to local stakeholders and assist each others in case of specific need pertaining to this subject.

The objective of the regional training is to have each participant to understand the risks associated with chemical products in case of technical accidents or chronic effects with impact on the population and the environment.

This understanding is needed to be able to justify prevention measures, preparedness and response actions in case of chemical incident. These measures require the calculation of dangerous zone and effort in terms of inter-agency cooperation. In addition, a special emphasis was developed on the importance of cooperation between these agencies, local authorities, industry and the population.

At the end of this training, the expert team will be able to convey these good practices to the national stakeholders including assistance from members of the experts team coming from another country. □

100% INCREASE IN SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE SUPPORT OF PROJECT 35



Over 6 months the support on social media has increased over 100% for the implementation of project 35.

GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COUNTRIES

by Adil Radoini and Mohammad Al Sahi

Meeting with JRC experts at Dubai Police Headquarters to discuss contributions of the "Centres of Excellence"
Dubai, September 2017

Although only few nuclear security events have been reported to the IAEA's Incident and Trafficking Database from the Gulf Region, the awareness for RN (Radiological/Nuclear) threats in a number of GCC countries has increased and they are taking measures to improve their level of preparedness. In particular Dubai Police has expressed interest in establishing nuclear forensic capabilities in order to be able to properly respond to unlawful acts involving nuclear or other radioactive materials.

To this end, two meetings were held with JRC experts at Dubai Police Headquarters (in spring and in early September 2017) in order to discuss the scope of the activity and the possible contribution of the "Centres of Excellence".

During the most recent meeting, the potential premises for hosting a nuclear forensics laboratory were visited, discussions with the nuclear regulatory authority were held, the nuclear engineering department of Sharjah University was visited in the context of identifying training needs and opportunities. JRC will provide a report describing the key issues to be considered in the capacity building process and offering next steps for materializing these plans. □



Dr. Klaus Mayer (JRC) at the Dubai Police HQ

REGIONAL PRIORITIES
for the Gulf cooperation council countries

- Legal framework
- Border control and monitoring
- Public health impact mitigation
- Illicit trafficking
- Safety and security
- Import/export control
- Transit and transshipment control
- Investigation/prosecution

CENTRAL ASIA

by Fanny Fert and Bakhtiyor Gylyamov



Regional Meeting on the EU CBRN CoE Project 53 in Tashkent.

Regional Meeting on the EU CBRN CoE Project 53 takes place in Tashkent

Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 02 November 2017

On 2 – 3 November 2017 the 2nd regional meeting of the EU-funded CBRN Centres of Excellence project 53 (P53), took place in Tashkent.

The meeting aimed to provide a platform for discussion on regional cooperation between participating countries on biosafety and biosecurity issues. Delegations from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Tajikistan, and

the Republic of Uzbekistan together with EU Team of Experts, EU officials, UNICRI, ISTC and representatives of international organizations discussed progress of P53 and future activities.

The meeting was articulated around four sessions:

- 1- Importance of regional and Inter-regional Cooperation on bio-safety/security Programs: In this sessions, the Regional Coordinator for Central Asia gave an overview of the EU CBRN CoE Initiative and future activities;
- 2- Implementation Status of Legislative Harmonization Scope;
- 3- Implementation Status of the Train-

ing Needs Assessment tool (TAT);
4- WP 5&6 Current and Future Planned Training Workshops.

The objective of P53 is to provide specialized training on bio-safety and bio-security in Central Asian countries and to strengthen the relevant national legal framework.

The meeting also provided an occasion for the Head of Secretariat and the Regional Coordinator to meet with the newly appointed National Focal Point from Pakistan (Pakistan joined the Initiative in August 2017), as well as discussed with the NFP from Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

Training in bio risk management organized in Bishkek

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 04 October 2017

The On-Site Technical Assistance expert (OSA) to the EU CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, Dr. Lela Bakanidze, conducted a training in bio risk management for twenty Kyrgyz experts. Participants were experts from relevant ministries and agencies.

Dr. Bakanidze covered topics such as assessment, mitigation, performance in bio risk management as well as bio-ethics and dual-use. In the final session of the training she gave the participants a comprehensive presentation on how to efficiently prepare project proposals.

The visit to Bishkek was also the occasion for the Regional Coordinator and the OSA expert to meet and discuss with the NFP of Kyrgyzstan as well as the Focal Point for project P53.

In the framework of her activity as OSA expert, Dr. Bakanidze already conducted a similar training in Uzbekistan and in Afghanistan.

OSA for Central Asia visits Afghanistan

Kabul, Afghanistan, 24 July 2017

On 24 July 2017, the OSA to the EU CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, Dr. Lela Bakanidze, conducted a training in bio risk management and project proposal writing for 30 Afghan experts mainly from the public health and veterinary fields. Participants were, members of the Atomic Energy High Commission, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Dr. Bakanidze covered topics such as assessment, mitigation, performance in bio risk management as well as bio-ethics and dual-use.

The training in Afghanistan was also the occasion to meet with members of the CBRN national Team as well as visit relevant facilities such as the Afghanistan National Public Health Institute (ANPHI) and the Atomic Energy High Commission.

In the framework of her activity as OSA expert, Dr. Bakanidze already conducted a similar training in Uzbekistan.

Continued from cover article ...

DEVCO B5 was represented by Ms. Sanchez Gil-Cepeda. The Uzbek side was headed by Mr. Norov, Head of the Strategic Studies Institute, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and former Ambassador in Brussels and Mr. Gulyamov, Head of the Regional Secretariat for Central Asia. The NFP, Mr. Sharipov was also present as well as the UNICRI Regional Coordinator, Ms. Fert.

The parties discussed current and future cooperation, and in particular, the wish to expand the activities of the Regional Secretariat to wider security issues, including cybersecurity and border management, using the existing Regional Secretariat's experience, expertise and network.

The discussions were very productive and the visit gave an opportunity to enhance the visibility of the activities of the CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Central Asia and the Initiative in general. □



COVER ARTICLE: Mr. Manservisi, visits the Regional Secretariat for Central Asia. Written by Jean-Pierre Bardoul.

“ The RTM presented an opportunity to take stock of progress achieved so far in the Central Asia region and to plan next steps such as the CBRN National Action Plan ”

Training in bio risk management organized by the Central Asia Regional Secretariat

Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 28 Mar 2017

On 28 March 2017, the On-Site Technical Assistance expert (OSA) to the EU CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, Dr. Lela Bakanidze, conducted a training in bio risk management for twenty Uzbek experts. Participants were members of the national CBRN team as well as other representatives from relevant ministries and agencies. Dr. Bakanidze covered topics such as assessment, mitigation, performance in bio risk management as well as

bioethics and dual-use. In the final session of the training she gave the participants a comprehensive presentation on how to efficiently prepare project proposals. The meeting was also the occasion to invite the Director of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Dr. Karamatova, to give an overview of the CDC activities in Uzbekistan.

5th Round Table Meeting for Central Asia

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 31 Jan - 1 Feb 2017

The 5th regional Round Table Meeting (RTM) for the Central Asia (CA) region took place in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on

January 31st and February 1st 2017. The meeting was attended by experts and National Focal Points (NFP) from the four partner countries, namely, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as well as from Mongolia, a potential partner country of the Central Asia Secretariat. The meeting was opened by the newly appointed NFP for Kyrgyzstan, Director of the State Regulation Centre of the Environmental Protection and Ecological Safety and by Mr. B. Gulyamov, Head of the Uzbek State Inspection "Sanoatgeokontekhnazorat" and Head of the Regional Secretariat. Experts from the countries together with experts of the European Commission, UNICRI and the On-Site technical Assistance, worked actively towards the development of a new regional project on biological and chemical waste management. The RTM also presented an opportunity to take stock of progress achieved so far in the Central Asia region and to plan next steps, such as CBRN National Action Plan workshops and interregional activities. □



Bio Risk training management in Tashkent.

MIDDLE EAST

by Adil Radoini and Nasser bin Nasser



Zaatari refugee camp.



Enhancing emergency preparedness in Beirut

Beirut, Lebanon, 25 - 27 September 2017

Beirut hosting the workshop on Emergency Preparedness that was been jointly organised by MediPIET and The Ministry of Health of Lebanon, from September 25th to 27th. The objective of the workshop was to enhance disaster preparedness plans for an effective response. The training of trainers is designed to provide a balance between theoretical and the practical aspects with the main goal of improving the capacity building of the institutions that are part of MediPIET network, considering the improvement of the citizens' welfare and the increasing of the possibilities for an effective sustainable development. This train-the-trainers program allows the preparation of a professional trainer who has effective presentation and facilitation skills. The inaugural session was formally opened by Me. José Jaime de Domingo, Team leader of MediPIET, Dr. Ghada Abou Mrad, from the Ministry of Health and Dr. Vinciane Sizaire, coordinator of the course, who welcomed all participants from 14 countries of the MediPIET network.

CoE project: visit to the Zaatari-refugee camp

Amman, Jordan 21 July 2016

Participants of the MediPIET Module on "Humanitarian Crisis and Mass Gatherings" visited the Zaatari camp for Syrian refugees in Jordan, as part of the field exercises included in the module. They were welcomed by the Zaatari Camp Manager Hovig Etyemezian in the headquarter "caravan" of UNHCR in the camp, where he explained the main challenges of the second biggest refugee camp in the world, with more than 79,000 people. "The main objective is to provide dignity to refugees", he said. In order to achieve this goal, health and education are the key issues and hygiene is a basic requirement for maintaining good public health. Dr Mohammed Abu Khadair, the Health Coordinator for Zaatari and focal point for Syrian refugees at the Ministry of Health of Jordan, believes that "the health sector in the refugee camp has seen dramatic improvements since opening". Now there are surveillance mechanisms in place and all actors are involved in securing regular analysis and acting rapidly on collecting health information. MediPIET visited a clinic built

with funds of the Saudi Arabian Campaign for Syrian Refugees, which provides primary health care. A second visit included the health center administered by JHAS, the Jordan Health Aid Society, and its in-camp laboratories which ensure that many diseases are being identified in a timely manner. The camp's infrastructure features health clinics, schools and training opportunities for the Syrian refugees such as sewing workshops and computer courses. Located 80 km north of Amman in the Directorate of Mafraq, 13 kilometers from the Syrian border, Zaatari hosts Syrians fleeing the violence in the ongoing Syrian civil war. Currently no more Syrian refugees are settling in the camp, since its managers consider it has achieved its maximum capacity. "Refugee camps are always planned as a temporary solution", the UNHCR manager explained. Indeed the long-term objective of the relief campaign is to enable populations to return to their homes when the war is over and the security situation is stabilised. As UNHCR personnel admit, everyday around 50 refugees go back to Syria. "We try to persuade them not to go for now, but we cannot force them to stay", Etyemezian admits. □

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA

by Alma Pintol and Joseph Maina

Pre-Needs Assessment Questionnaire workshop

Wamkulu Palace hotel, Malawi, 29-30 August 2017

A pre-Needs Assessment Questionnaire (NAQ) workshop was conducted for the Malawi CBRN National Team members and other CBRN stakeholders on 29-30 Aug 2017 at the Wamkulu Palace hotel, Lilongwe. The workshop was opened by the Chief Guest Dr Mbuya Munlo, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Government of Malawi. The workshop which was chaired by Mr Francis Mponda, National CBRN CoE Focal Point of Malawi, was facilitated by the On-Site Assistance (OSA) experts team consisting of Dr Ram Athavale and Mr Jarmo Pekkala from the Eastern and Central Africa Regional Secretariat. A total of thirty-two members attended the workshop.

The workshop was aimed at creating greater understanding of the NAQ and its structure and preparing the National Team members to correctly address the NAQ. The OSA experts highlighted the various CBRN threats and risks and explained the need to carry out detailed mapping of CBRN assets, activities, legislation, policies and expertise existing in Malawi. The need for a NAQ, its structure, subsequent gap analysis and its importance in formulating the National Action Plan and other CBRN risk mitigation measures was explained in detail. The participants were keen to understand the layout of the NAQ and contributed in the discussions with enthusiasm. The OSA experts discussed the answering requirements for each of the sections with sample questions drawn from the NAQ. The workshop proved to be very useful in enhancing the understanding of the National Team and other

stakeholders with regard to the NAQ and ignited their minds towards developing comprehensive and correct answers for the NAQ.

Mr Francis Mponda, Malawi NFP, and his team from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, briefed all the participants on the CBRN CoE related activities and those of the UNSCR 1540 and OPCW in Malawi. He also briefed the participants on the forthcoming projects and impressed upon the members for committed participation and involvement with these projects. The pre-NAQ workshop has paved the way for the main NAQ workshop, which is expected to be conducted at the earliest under the aegis of the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the EU, in liaison with the UNICRI and OSA Team.



Pre-Needs Assessment Questionnaire workshop in Malawi.

Cérémonie de remise des équipements CBRN aux services publics intervenant en premier lieu en cas d'un incident de nature chimique, biologique, radioactive ou nucléaire

August 28, 2017,

L'Union Européenne a apporté son appui à la mise en place de Centres d'excellence (CoE) permettant aux 11 pays partenaires (pour le CoE Afrique Centrale et Orientale) d'organiser la prévention et la réaction adéquates contre les incidents d'origine naturelle ou intentionnelle entraînant des risques chimiques, biologiques, radioactifs ou nucléaires (CBRN). L'initiative ("Centres of Excellence initiative"), lancée depuis 2010, est financée par la Commission Européenne et mise en œuvre en coopération avec l'Institut Interrégional de Recherche des Nations Unies sur la Criminalité et la Justice (UNICRI). Les projets n°33 et 50 relatifs à la prévention, à la protection et à l'intervention pour les cas d'incidents impliquant des matériaux chimiques, biologiques, radiologiques ou nucléaires, dits "CBRN" ont été mis en œuvre en RD Congo. Ils ont permis d'identifier les besoins et les lacunes de la législation et du système de gestion de risques en RDC et d'organiser des formations spécifiques pour les différents organismes et services impliqués dans la prévention et la réponse CBRN.

Ce lundi 28 août 2017, le Ministre de la Recherche Scientifique, Eva Muakasa, accompagné par le Chargé d'affaires a.i. de la Délégation de l'Union européenne en RD Congo, Bertrand Soret, ont remis des matériels spécialisés aux différents services intervenant en première ligne en cas d'incidents CBRN, à savoir la Police nationale et la Police scientifique, l'Armée, les Pompiers, la Direction générale des Migrations (DGM), la Direction générale des Douanes et Accises (DGDA), le Ministère de la Santé, le Ministère de l'intérieur, ou le Commissariat Général à l'Energie Atomique (CGEA).



Cérémonie de remise des équipements CBRN aux services publics intervenant en premier lieu en cas d'un incident de nature chimique, biologique, radioactive ou nucléaire.

Seychelles benefits from chemical safety and security workshop

Seychelles, 19 July 2017

Seychelles is benefitting from a week-long workshop on chemical safety and security in the Eastern and Central African Region.

The workshop, taking place at Savoy Seychelles Resort & Spa, Beau Vallon, is being held in countries of the region with the aim of strengthening regional and national capacities with respect to limitation of environmental consequences following a chemical incident in the region.

It was hosted by three Polish representatives from the Chemical Safety and Static Electricity Department (CSSSED) of the Institute of Industrial Organic Chemistry in Poland. It was organized by the European Union (EU) in collaboration with its focal point person in Seychelles in the Department of Foreign Affairs. The EU representatives are Dr Katarzyna Drożdżewska, leader of Biocide Registration Group CSSSED and leader of delegation; Paulina Flasińska and Joanna Szczygielska, all from the same department.

Attending the workshop are relevant stakeholders from various departments and agencies, both public and private whose daily work is related to the control, regulation, handling, distribution,

storage of chemicals or responding to any chemical-related incidents.

Some of the topics being covered are pesticides and biocides – differences, use, application and dangers; criteria of classification of dangerous chemicals; industrial process safety – requirements for low tier and upper tier establishments (Seveso Directives); rules of registration for biologically active substances; risk assessment; regulations and transport of dangerous chemicals; how to prepare documents on protection against explosion.

The three representatives said the EU found there was a need to support African countries of those regions to build up their knowledge and raise awareness on the proper use, handling of chemicals and pesticides.

"We need to assess the dangers and give information to the workers, public users on what kind of hazards are related to a chemical product. "I described the methods on how to assess these hazards," explained Ms Szczygielska. "For example with ammonia, petrol, as there are lots of petrol tanks, these are dangerous goods and we will show the requirements companies need to handle such goods. For example how to prepare safety tools and the explosion protection documents as there is an explosive atmosphere near such facilities," said Ms Flasińska.

Reinforcing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risks mitigation capacities in Rwanda

Kigali, Rwanda 23-24 Mar 2017

A meeting with the Rwandan National CBRN Team took place in Kigali and was organised by the Ministry of Defence in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation with the support of the Regional Secretariat for Eastern and Central Africa (ECA). Its purpose was to reinforce the National Team's knowledge of the CBRN CoE methodology and tools available within the programme, as well as to strengthen their understanding of the upcoming CoE projects. The opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Ondrej Simek, Head of Political Section in the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Rwanda, Dr Ram Athavale, Key On-Site Assistance Expert in the Eastern and Central Africa Regional Secretariat and Ms Alma Pintol, ECA Regional Coordinator. The workshop was officially opened by the Ms Diyana Gitera, Head of Multilateral Affairs Directorate General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation who assured the participants of the government's support of the programme and of the National Team's efforts. The meeting provided an opportunity for the participants to consider CBRN risks, threats and vulnerabilities specific to Rwanda, and it reminded them of the existing protocols, response mechanisms and achievements. On-Site experts, mandated to support the National Team in their technical activities, spoke about Mapping of CBRN assets and activities, Needs Assessment methodology and the Training modalities of National CBRN Response Team. The second day of the workshop was dedicated to information sharing on project proposals preparation and implementation, with special focus on the next projects to be implemented in 11 partner countries in the region. The next envisaged steps, agreed on by the participants are the formalization of the National CBRN Team and a workshop on Country's CBRN needs assessment.



Reinforcing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risks mitigation capacities in Rwanda.

Eighth National Focal Points Round-Table Meeting of Eastern and Central Africa and launch of Project 60

Nairobi, Kenya 20-23 Feb 2017

The round table was combined with the opening of the CoE Project Support to the EU CBRN ECA CoE in Nuclear Security. "The regional round-table meeting in Nairobi marks an important moment" said Mr Bruno Pozzi, Deputy Head of the EU to Kenya. "The Eastern and Central Africa region looks back at achievements to date, among which are the CBRN National Action Plans (NAPs) that have been produced," adding that "security is an important item on the agenda and the CBRN Centre of Excellence initiative - as the EU's first security project in third countries- features prominently on the agenda." The EU CBRN CoE Initiative seeks to boost co-operation at national, regional and international levels, and to develop a common and coherent CBRN risk mitigation policy. Ambassador Christopher Chika, Director, Asia and Australasia, on behalf of Ambassador Juma, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reiterated the commitment of the Government of Kenya to host secretariat and to work closely with the governments in the region. He stated: "The significance of the CBRN CoE Initiative is more profound today given the complex national security threats that we all face". The

meeting was an opportunity for the National Focal Points and experts from the region to share the latest developments related to the national CBRN risk mitigation actions, including implementation of current and future projects, identification of regional priorities and establishment of co-operation, as well as the ongoing mapping of CBRN critical assets, activities and available expertise. This meeting also served as starting point for the development of several project proposals reflecting the most urgent needs of all countries in the region. NFPPs of Kenya, Uganda, and the DRC presented the priorities in CBRN risk mitigation identified in their NAPs to the embassies of EU Member States and other important donors in the region, in a match-making attempt. During the opening of the new project on nuclear safety and security on the 23 February, experts on radiological and nuclear (RN) issues from state institutions and research communities of eleven African countries shared information about existing legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms, national policies on nuclear safety and security as well as the need for specialized training, field exercises, and equipment. Ways and means to address efficiently the challenges of managing radioactive waste, of using RN sources in mining, gas and oil industries, and of ensuring safe trans-border transportation of RN materials were discussed as well. □

SOUTH EAST AND EASTERN EUROPE

by Francesco Miorin and Givi Amiranashvili

CBRN Donor Coordination Meeting

Tbilisi, Georgia, 3 November 2017

On 3 November 2017, the State Security Service of Georgia organized a Donor Coordination Meeting on CBRN Safety and Security in Tbilisi, Georgia on 3 November 2017. The meeting was organized with the financial support of the European Commission and under the auspices of the Interagency Coordinating Council of Georgia for Combating Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Threats.

Representatives of the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Internal Affairs, Defense, Environment and Natural Resources Protection and other Georgian government agencies participated in the event. The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of France, Sweden, Poland and Italy, as well as representatives of European Union Delegation to Georgia, Embassies of the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Czechia, NATO Liaison Office, UN agencies, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and World Health Organization.

The meeting brought together Georgian government and international stakeholders to discuss current and future assistance to Georgia in implementing its CBRN National Action Plan, as well as to coordinate activities and projects in the field of CBRN risk mitigation.

The Georgian agencies presented achievements and ongoing activities, and international partners delivered presentations on their engagement with Georgia and discussed opportunities to further collaboration and share best practices in the field. □



Donor Coordination Meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia

NORTH AFRICA AND SAHEL

by Samia Chouchane and Kheira Bradai



Séminaire Inter-régional des Centres d'Excellence NRBC de l'Union européenne.

Premier séminaire régional P55, Algiers

Les Points Focaux Nationaux et les experts de pays partenaires du Bureau Régional de l'Afrique du Nord et du Sahel ainsi que les représentants de la Mauritanie, se sont réunis à Alger à l'occasion du premier séminaire régional du P55 portant sur le renforcement des capacités de détection et de contrôle aux frontières des substances NRBC. Le séminaire a été une occasion pour les pays de discuter avec le metteur en œuvre, Expertise France, des modalités de mise en œuvre du projet au niveau régional et national et de planifier les activités à venir.

Visite de travail à Bamako Bamako, Mali, 14 - 17 Mars 2017

Le bureau régional Afrique du nord et Sahel a tenu une visite d'évaluation au Mali du 14 au 17 mars 2017. Cette visite avait pour objectif de discuter avec plusieurs secteurs impliqués dans la gestion des risques NRBC, des besoins nationaux et priorités urgentes depuis l'adhésion du Mali à l'Initiative en 2016. A cette occasion, des réunions et visites de travail ont été organisées avec le point focal national, l'Agence malienne de radioprotection (AMARAP), la Direction générale de la Protection civile (DGPC) et le Ministère des Affaires étrangères en vue de discuter de la mise en œuvre de l'Initiative dans le pays et d'explorer les besoins sectoriels, notamment en matière de formation techniques et de capacités en terme d'équipement. Une réunion avec l'Equipe nationale s'est également tenue le 17 mars et a permis de discuter d'une part d'un calendrier de travail pour 2017, incluant en particulier le NAQ et le NAP, et d'autre part des



Above: Atelier technique sur la création d'Unités opérationnelles d'intervention CBRN - Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Right: Equipements de protection.

résultats des différentes discussions bilatérales, notamment avec l'expert en site, M. Povoden en vue de planifier différentes formations techniques, en conformité avec les priorités et besoins dégagés.

Atelier technique sur la création d'Unités opérationnelles d'intervention CBRN - Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Burkina Faso - 13 October 2017

Mise en œuvre dans le cadre du Projet 56, l'Expert sur site régional (OSA) a soutenu les discussions entre différents secteurs pertinents du Burkina Faso sur la création d'une unité opérationnelle NRBC en vue notamment de renforcer les capacités nationales en matière d'intervention et de gestion d'incident/accident NRBC.

L'expert OSA et les officiers du pays ont échangés sur les bonnes pratiques existantes et expériences nationales pertinentes afin de permettre aux techniciens de mieux guider les orientations des décideurs lors du potentiel processus

d'établissement d'une équipe ou unité d'intervention NRBC par le Burkina. A cette occasion également, l'expert OSA a prodigué quelques conseils pratiques sur l'utilisation optimale des équipements de protection que le Burkina Faso a reçu d'un pays tiers.

Cette formation s'inscrit dans le cadre d'un curriculum de formations sur les procédures et mesures d'intervention en cas d'incident/accident/acte malveillant NRBC. D'autres formations sont prévues pour soutenir les efforts de ce pays partenaires à établir une telle structure.

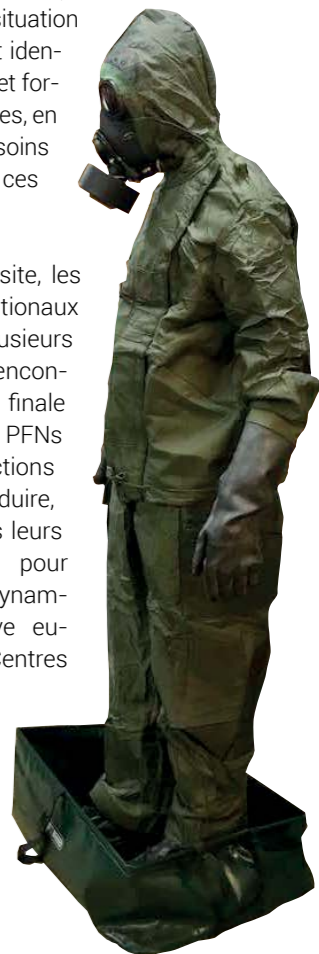
Séminaire Inter-régional des Centres d'Excellence NRBC de l'Union européenne Paris, 2-5 octobre 2017

À la demande de DG DEVCO, l'Équipe de gouvernance des Centres d'excellence NRBC de l'Union européenne a organisé un séminaire inter-régional, réunissant à Paris les Points focaux nationaux de 11 pays francophones partenaires de l'Initiative provenant des bureaux régionaux de Rabat (Façade Atlantique

Africaine) et Alger (Afrique du Nord et Sahel).

Les objectifs principaux consistaient à échanger sur l'extension du champ de l'Initiative CdE en réponse à la transformation des menaces dans la région concernée; encourager les dynamiques de coopération inter-régionale pour la prévention et la gestion des crises NRBC; apporter une vision d'ensemble du système français de gestion des questions de sécurité liées aux risques NRBC, pour nourrir la réflexion des PFN; souligner la dimension de la coopération inter-agences dans la conception des politiques publiques et du plan d'action national, et dans leur mise en œuvre aux niveaux national, régional et départemental; permettre aux NFP de rencontrer leurs homologues français dans les différents départements concernés (ministère de l'Intérieur, ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Sécurité Civile, Douanes etc.); et échanger sur la situation de chaque pays et identifier les missions et formations nécessaires, en réponse aux besoins spécifiques de ces pays.

Au cours de la visite, les Points focaux nationaux ont participé à plusieurs activités et rencontres. La session finale a permis aux PFNs d'identifier les actions concrètes à conduire, à leur retour dans leurs pays respectifs, pour approfondir la dynamique de l'Initiative européenne des Centres d'Excellence. □



SOUTH EAST ASIA

by Harro Wittermans and Danilo Servando

Project 46 National Laboratory Experts Workshop in Myanmar

Myanmar, Mandalay, 12 September 2017

The National Laboratory Experts (NLE) Workshop on Biosafety, Biosecurity and Biorisk Management took place on 11-12 September in Mandalay, Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

The workshop was organized within the framework of the European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and

Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative (CBRN CoE).

The above mentioned event is part of Phase 2 of the Regional Biorisk Expert Team (BET) training pathways of Project 46. Dr. Wah Wah Aung from the Department of Medical Research (Ministry of Health and Sport) and Dr. Kinh Mar Mya from the Biotechnology Research Department (Ministry of the Education), who were previously trained as BET trainers under the same project, delivered the

training for the benefit of the 15 participants selected at the national level.

This workshop was organized with the support of the CBRN CoE National Focal Point of Myanmar, Dr. Khin Maung Latt, Director General of the Department of Technical Promotion and Coordination (Ministry of Education).

The workshop followed Phase 1 (Workshop I and Workshop II) of the project, where 16 delegates involved in the pro-

gram from the participating South-East Asian countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, were trained as trainers in the field of Bio-Risk Management. The two BET trainers of Myanmar are now bringing their expertise gained through the project into practice.

These workshops are organized in the framework of Component 2 – Capacity Building in Bio-Risk Management, including Biosafety, Biosecurity and Waste Management - of Project 46 “Enhancement of CBRN capacities of South East Asia in addressing CBRN risk mitigation concerning CBRN first response, biosafety and biosecurity, awareness raising and legal framework”.

Project 46 National Laboratory Experts Workshop in Viet Nam

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
29 to 31 August 2017,

A workshop took taking place on Biorisk Management from 29 to 31 August 2017, at the Pasteur Institute in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

The Biorisk Management Workshop is the National Laboratory Experts (NLEs) Workshop of Viet Nam in the framework of Phase 2 of the Regional Biorisk Expert Team (BET). The two BET Trainers of Viet Nam who will deliver the training for the benefit of 15 participants selected at national level are Dr. Vu Thi Que Huong of the Pasteur Institute of Ho Chi Minh City and Ms. Nguyen Thi Ngoc Ha of

the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology.

This training was organized with the support of the CBRN CoE National Focal Points of Viet Nam, Dr. Nguyen Tuan Khai, Director General of the Vietnam Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety (VARANS) and Mr. Pham Hai Anh, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The event follows Phase 1 (Workshop I and Workshop II) of the project, where 16 delegates involved in the program from the participating South-East Asian countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam,



Project 46 National Laboratory Experts Workshop in Viet Nam.

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These workshops are organized in the framework of Component 2 – Capacity Building in Bio-Risk Management, including Biosafety, Biosecurity and Waste Management - of Project 46 "Enhancement of CBRN capacities of South East Asia in addressing CBRN risk mitigation concerning CBRN first response, biosafety and biosecurity, awareness raising and legal framework".

**Project 46
National Laboratory Experts
Workshop in Cambodia**

Phnom Penh, Cambodia,
4 to 6 September 2017

A workshop took place on Biosafety and Biorisk Management from 4 to 6 September 2017 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The Biosafety and Biorisk Management Workshop is the National Laboratory Experts (NLEs) Workshop of Cambodia in the framework of Phase 2 of the Regional Biorisk Expert Team (BET) training pathways of Project 46. The two BET Trainers of Cambodia who will deliver the training for the benefit of 15 participants selected at national level are Dr. Sau Sokunna of the Department of Health Services of the Ministry of Health and Mr. Mao Seanghorn Ha of the Preah Ket Melea Hospital.

This event was organized with the support of the CBRN CoE National Focal Point of Cambodia, Lt. Gen. Ke Da, who also opened the event together with the Chargé d'Affaires a. i. of the Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia, Ms. Genoveva Hernández Uriz.

The workshop follows Phase 1 (Workshop I and Workshop II) of the project, where 16 delegates involved in the program from the participating South-East Asian countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia,

Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, were trained as trainers in the field of Bio-Risk Management. The two BET Trainers of Cambodia are now bringing their expertise gained through the project into practice.

These workshops are organized in the framework of Component 2 – Capacity Building in Bio-Risk Management, including Biosafety, Biosecurity and Waste Management - of Project 46 "Enhancement of CBRN capacities of South East Asia in addressing CBRN risk mitigation concerning CBRN first response, biosafety and biosecurity, awareness raising and legal framework".

A step closer to the approval of the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) National Action Plan of Cambodia

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 21 July 2016

The 5th Meeting of the Cambodian National Authority for the Prohibition of CBRN Weapons (NACW) marked



Project 46 National Laboratory Experts Workshop in Cambodia.

“ The NACW agreed on submitting the revised version of the NAP to the Prime Minister, marking a significant milestone in the road-map of its approval ”

a crucial step towards the approval of the CBRN National Action Plan (NAP) of Cambodia. General Tea Banh, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of National Defence and President of the NACW chaired the high-level meeting which took place on 21st July 2016 in Phnom Penh at the premises of the Ministry of National Defence. The approval of the NAP was one of the main subjects discussed during the 5th NACW's meeting. The collaboration with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the reporting mechanism of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 were also discussed in this setting. The NACW agreed on submitting the revised version of the NAP to the Prime Minister, marking a significant milestone in the road-map of its approval. The overall purpose of the NAP is to articulate a national vision for CBRN risk mitigation and to identify priorities for awareness raising and building capacity. The NAP ensures integration of efforts in one coherent approach, thus strengthening national capacities for prevention, detection, preparedness and response to CBRN threats. It also facilitates the identification and implementation of projects and ensures that capacity building is part of a coordinated and sustainable approach. The 5th NACW's Meeting was attended by 25 high-officials from different Cambodian Ministries such as the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry Mines and Energy, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Water resources and Meteorology, the Ministry of Economic and Finance, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the General Department of Technique, the Royal Gendarmeries and

the Secretary General of NACW. Within the framework of the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence (EU CBRN CoE Initiative), UNICRI, together with the European Commission Joint Research Centre (EC JRC), has assisted the National CBRN Team of Cambodia in the development of National Action Plan through a series of workshops aimed at identifying needs, capabilities and priorities in the field of CBRN risk mitigation.

CBRN CoE meets with Thai government ministries

Bangkok, Thailand - 16-17 May 2016

On 16-17 May 2016, Dr. Robert Frank, Regional Cooperation Officer, Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines and Ms. Maria Eugenia de los Angeles Rettori, EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for South East Asia, UNICRI met with Thailand government ministries in Bangkok to discuss further cooperation in the CBRN field.

The Delegation of the EU to Thailand facilitated the visit and joined some of the meetings as well. Among these offices were the National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, Ministry of Public Health; Office of Atoms for Peace, Ministry of Science and Technology; Peace, Security and Disarmament Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Office of the National Security Council (NSC); National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention, Department of Industrial Works, Ministry of Industry; and Thailand Institute of Nuclear technology (TINT). □

PROJECT 46

Enhancement of CBRN capacities of South East Asia in addressing CBRN risk mitigation concerning CBRN first response, biosafety and biosecurity, awareness raising and legal framework.



Budget:

€3000000

Duration:

36 Months

Target Area:

**Brunei,
Darussalam,
Cambodia,
Indonesia,
Lao PDR,
Malaysia,
Myanmar,
Philippines,
Singapore,
Thailand,
Vietnam**

COUNTRY NAP updates

Atelier de préparation du Plan d'action national (NAP) NRBC du Niger - Niamey,

Niger, 16-17 Octobre 2017

Le deuxième atelier de préparation du NAP NRBC du Niger s'est tenu les 16 et 17 octobre 2017, en présence de l'Equipe nationale et de l'ensemble des parties prenantes pertinentes du pays.

Le Centre Commun de Recherche (JRC), et l'expert en site pour la région Afrique du nord et Sahel (NAS) ont guidé l'ensemble des participants dans leurs discussions visant à donner forme au NAP.

Cet atelier est le deuxième organisé en vue de soutenir le Niger dans l'élaboration de son NAP NRBC. Le Niger est le tout premier pays du Secrétariat de la région NAS à être engagé dans le processus de préparation du NAP. Présente lors de la cérémonie



Above: Atelier de préparation du Plan d'action national (NAP) NRBC du Niger.

d'ouverture, la Délégation de l'Union européenne a salué les efforts du pays en ce sens.

1st National CBRN Action Plan workshop for Uzbekistan

Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 15-16 Nov 2016

The meeting, facilitated by experts from the EU Joint Research Center (JRC) in coordination with the Regional Coordinator from the United Nations Inter-regional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the Uzbek authorities. It was attended by members of the Uzbek CBRN working group. Head of the State Inspection Sanoatgeokontekhnazorat and Head of the Regional Secretariat for Central Asia, as well as by Ambassador Eduards Stiprais, Head of the EU Delegation to Uzbekistan, opened the event. The workshop held as part of the European Union CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence initiative (EU CBRN CoE) was the first of a series of national workshops aimed at incorporating the national vision for risk mitigation into a National CBRN Action Plan and at identifying priorities for building capacity. Among the participants of the workshop were representatives from the State Inspection Sanoatgeokontekhnazorat, the Ministry of Emergency Situation, Ministry of Health, the Academy of Science, the Ministry of Interior, and other relevant ministries and agencies. The goal of the event was to make another step towards incorporating separate efforts into one coherent approach aimed at strengthening national capacities for prevention, detection, preparedness and response to CBRN threats. This

workshop allowed for a review of the identified CBRN risks, capabilities, gaps and actions for capacity-building, and focused on priority actions. It also prepared the path for a better identification and implementation of projects focusing on capacity-building and promoting coordination and sustainability.

Following the meeting, the Uzbek CBRN working group and JRC experts will both work on a series of tasks before meeting again for the second workshop beginning of 2017.

1st NAP workshop for Afghanistan

Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 22-23 September 2016

The first workshop for the drafting of a National Action Plan (NAP) for Afghanistan to mitigate Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risks took place on 22-23 September 2016 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The workshop was attended by members of the Afghan CBRN Team together with JRC experts. The workshop held as part of the European Union CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence initiative (EU CBRN CoE) was the first of a series of national workshops aimed at incorporating the national vision for risk mitigation into a National CBRN Action Plan and at identifying priorities for building capacity. Among the participants of the workshop were representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authorities (ANDMA). The goal was to make another step towards incorporating separate



1st NAP workshop for Afghanistan in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

efforts into one coherent approach aimed at strengthening national capacities for prevention, detection, preparedness and response to CBRN threats. This workshop allowed for a review of the identified CBRN risks, capabilities, gaps and actions for capacity-building, and focused on priority actions. It also prepared the path for a better identification and implementation of projects focusing on capacity-building and promoting coordination and sustainability. Following the meeting, the Afghan CBRN Team and JRC experts will both work on a series of tasks before meeting again for the second workshop beginning of 2017.

Second NAP Workshop Senegal

Dakar, Senegal, 25-27 October 2016

Le deuxième atelier pour la rédaction du Plan d'Action National (PAN) du Sénégal pour la réduction des risques Nucléaires, Radiologiques, Biologiques et Chimiques (NRBC) s'est tenu les 25, 26 et 27 octobre 2016 à Dakar, Sénégal. Une quarantaine de participants, représentants des ministères et experts nationaux, ont participé à l'événement, dont l'ouverture a été effectuée par le représentant du Ministre de l'Environnement, M. Cheikh Fofanta et le Point focal national des CdE NRBC pour le Sénégal, Mme Fagamu Sy Diop. L'atelier visant à réviser et approfondir le travail effectué par l'équipe nationale NRBC du Sénégal au cours du premier atelier d'octobre 2015, a conduit à une meilleure définition des objectifs stratégiques NRBC du Sénégal.

Second workshop to prepare the National Action Risk Mitigation in Seychelles

Victoria, Seychelles, 8-10 June 2016

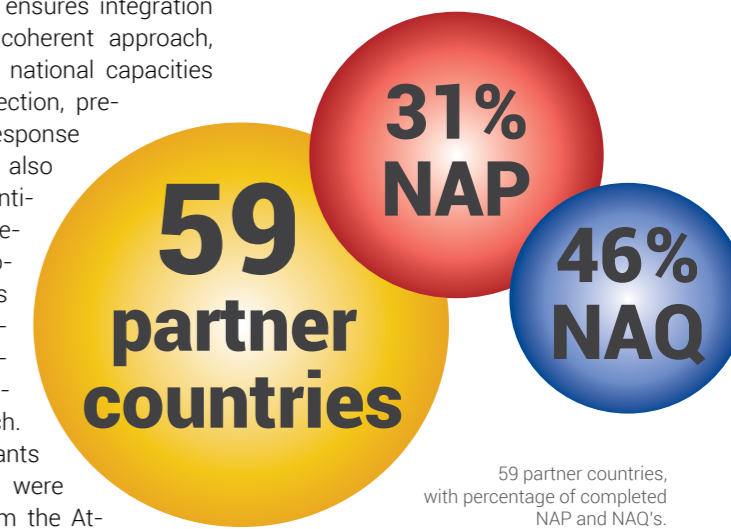
The second workshop for the preparation of Seychelles' National Action Plan (NAP) to mitigate Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risks took place on 8-10 June 2016 in Victoria, Seychelles. The three-day workshop with the Seychelles National CBRN Team, was opened by the Director of Protocol, Treaties and Consular Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Transport who also acts as the National Focal Point for the CBRN CoE Initiative. The participants were also addressed by UNICRI Regional Coordinator for Eastern and Central Africa. The workshop was the second of a series of national workshops aimed at consolidating the Seychelles' national vision for risk mitigation into a National CBRN Action Plan and at identifying priorities for building capacity. The NAP ensures integration of efforts in one coherent approach, thus strengthening national capacities for prevention, detection, preparedness and response to CBRN threats. It also facilitates the identification and implementation of projects and ensures that capacity building is part of a coordinated and sustainable approach. Among the participants of the workshop were representatives from the At-

orney General's Office; the Ministry of Agriculture; the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM), Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Transport; the Ministry of Health; the Public Health Authority (PHA); the Public Health Laboratory; the Public Utilities Corporation; the Seychelles Bureau of Standards; the Seychelles People Defence Forces; the Seychelles Port Authority; the Seychelles Postal Services; and the Seychelles Revenue Commission (Customs Division). The meeting was also attended by experts from the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) and UNICRI, who facilitated the work of the Seychelles National CBRN Team. The workshop allowed for a review of the identified CBRN risks, capabilities, gaps and actions for capacity-building, and focused on priority actions.

Iraqi National Team holds NAP workshop

Amman, Jordan, 26-28 April 2016

From the 26-28th April the highly engaged national expert team of Iraq, led by the National Focal Point and scientifically supported by JRC staff, logistically and otherwise by UNICRI and the delegation, carried out the elaboration of their CBRN National Action Plan at the premises of the Middle East Regional Secretariat (MESIS) in Amman. □





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An initiative of the European Union

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About CoE

The EU Centres of Excellence on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation (CBRN CoE Initiative), launched in 2010, is an initiative of the European Union (EU).

The initiative addresses the mitigation of and preparedness against risks related to CBRN material and agents. The origin of these risks can be criminal, accidental or natural. The Initiative seeks to boost cooperation at regional and international levels, and to develop a common and coherent CBRN risk mitigation policy at the regional level. Risk mitigation comprises prevention, preparedness and post-crisis management.

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CBRN CoE) is an EU initiative. It is led, financed and implemented by the European Commission, in close coordination with the European External Action Service (EEAS) and with the support of the UN (UNICRI) and other International Organisations and local experts.

For more information visit CBRN CoE website at:
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